

Questions Couples Should Ask (Or Wish They Had) Before Marrying

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Relationship experts report that too many couples fail to ask each other critical questions before marrying. Here are a few key ones that couples should consider asking:

- 1) Have we discussed whether or not to have children, and if the answer is yes, who is going to be the primary care giver?
- 2) Do we have a clear idea of each other's financial obligations and goals, and do our ideas about spending and saving mesh?
- 3) Have we discussed our expectations for how the household will be maintained, and are we in agreement on who will manage the chores?
- 4) Have we fully disclosed our health histories, both physical and mental?
- 5) Is my partner affectionate to the degree that I expect?
- 6) Can we comfortably and openly discuss our sexual needs, preferences and fears?
- 7) Will there be a television in the bedroom?
- 8) Do we truly listen to each other and fairly consider one another's ideas and complaints?
- 9) Have we reached a clear understanding of each other's spiritual beliefs and needs, and have we discussed when and how our children will be exposed to religious/moral education?
- 10) Do we like and respect each other's friends?
- 11) Do we value and respect each other's parents, and is either of us concerned about whether the parents will interfere with the relationship?
- 12) What does my family do that annoys you?
- 13) Are there some things that you and I are NOT prepared to give up in the marriage?
- 14) If one of us were to be offered a career opportunity in a location far from the other's family, are we prepared to move?
- 15) Does each of us feel fully confident in the other's commitment to the marriage and believe that the bond can survive whatever challenges we may face?